

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01 L-03

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R 111435Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2363

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 0246

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, TU

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTRY SECGEN APPEALS FOR AVOIDANCE
OF DRASTIC REDUCTION IN MAP

REF: STATE 003270 (EXDIS)

1. DURING THE AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON HIM JANUARY 11, MFA SECGEN EREZ MADE A STRONG APPEAL FOR AVOIDING DRASTIC REDUCTIONS WHEN FY 74 MAP ALLOCATIONS TO TURKEY ARE MADE, OBSERVING THAT "THIS WOULD BE IN THE HIGHEST INTERESTS OF BOTH COUNTRIES."

2. EREZ REVEIUED A REPORT HE HAD JUST RECEIVED ON THE SISCO-ESENBEL DISCUSSION OF MAP JANUARY 7 (REFTEL), AND NOTED THAT ESENBEL HAS REQUESTED AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE OF THIS SUBJECT. STOPPING HIS ASSISTANT FROM TAKING NOTES AT THIS POINT, EREZ EXPRESSED HIS OWN HOPE, AS A FRIEND OF THE U.S., THAT A DRASTIC CUT WOULD NOT "PUSH US FARTHER APART", POINTING OUT THAT IN HIS OPINION ELEMENTS OF THE TURKISH MILITARY ARE UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT THE U.S. IS "SLOWLY AND GRADUALLY GIVING UP TURKEY". IF A REDUCTION HAD TO BE MADE, HE HOPED THAT THE U.S. COULD MANAGE TO PORTRAY IT IN A MANNER THAT WOULD LESSEN ITS IMPACT ON MILITARY OPINION.

3. TOUCHING ON ALL THE BASIC POINTS OF OUR RELATIONSHIP-TURKEY'S HEAVY CONTRIBUTIONS TO DEFENSE, U.S. ASSISTANCE
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IN DEFENDING TURKEY AGAINST SOVIET ENCROACHMENTS AFTER

WORLD WAR II, THE COMMON DANGER FROM THE SOVIETS, TURKEY'S
PRIMARY RELIANCE ON THE U.S. DESPITE GROWING TIES WITH
EUROPE - EREZ URGED THAT U.S. DO ALL POSSIBLE TO KEEP MAP
LEVEL FROM DROPPING.

4. IN RESPONSE I INDICATED THAT SENIOR LEVELS OF USG FULLY
AWARE OF NEED FOR CONTINUING MILITARY ASSISTANCE
TO TURKEY, AND LEADERSHIP OF BOTH STATE AND DEFENSE DOING
ALL THAT COULD BE DONE, DESPITE LIMITED RESOURCES, TO ACCOMPLISH
THIS. I WENT ON TO SAY THAT WHILE ECONOMIC INDICATORS
THIS FALL HAD CLEARLY SUGGESTED THAT TURKEY COULD QTE
GRADUATE UNQTE FROM ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE IN RELATIVELY
NEAR FUTURE, SENIOR LEVELS OF USG BELIEVED NEED FOR
SIGNIFICANT MILITARY ASSISTANCE WOULD CONTINUE FOR SOME
TIME. I ADDED THAT ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES FOR TURKEY,
GROWING OUT OF MIDDLE EAST WAR, NOW REQUIRED THAT EVEN
ON ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE SIDE, QTE GRADUATION UNQTE
PROSPECTS WOULD HAVE TO BE RECONSIDERED.

5. OTHER SUBJECTS DISCUSSED ARE BEING REPORTED
BYSSEPTELS. MACOMBER
NOTE: EXDIS CAPTION DELETED PER: MR. NEWLIN S/S-O

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